

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6653

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 0402

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SHUM, OAS, :8

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE AND OAS

REF: SANTIAGO 0314

1. SUMMARY. IN CONVERSATION COMPLEMENTING THE ONE WITH SERGIO DIEZ (REFTEL), CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON MANUEL TRUCCO REPORTED HIS PLANS FOR INTRODUCING INTO OAS A GENERAL SYSTEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONTROL SIMILAR IN APPROACH TO CHILE'S PROPOSAL IN LAST UNGA. TRUCCO AND OTHERS WILL MEET PRESIDENT PINOCHET JANUARY 19, AND TRUCCO HOPES AMBASSADOR WILL USE EXPECTED FAVORABLE RESULTS TO SUPPORT HIS REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY. END SUMMARY.

2. TRUCCO TOLD AMBASSADOR POPPER JANUARY 16 HE WOULD BE PRESENT AT JANUARY 19 MEETING OF PRESIDENT PINOCHET ALONG WITH FONMINISTRY HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERT SERGIO DIEZ (REFTEL), FONMIN CARVAJAL, AND FINANCEMIN CAUAS. THE GROUP INTENDS TO PUT TO PINOCHET INTERRELATED PROBLEMS CHILE FACES AT FEBRUARY UNHRC MEETING IN GENEVA AND IN OAS, AND NEED FOR INTERNAL CHANGES. TRUCCO WILL REPORT BACK, AND HOPES AMBASSADOR CAN USE EXPECTED FAVORABLE RESULTS AS SUPPORT FOR TRUCCO'S REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER LATER IN

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MONTH.

3. TRUCCO WAS CONCERNED PRINCIPALLY WITH GENERAL PROPOSAL HE MADE IN OAS COUNCIL IN DECEMBER FOR CHANGE IN OAS SYSTEM FOR HANDLING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. HE HOPES TO INTRODUCE IN OAS PREPARATORY COMMISSION A RESOLUTION THAT COULD BE ADOPTED BY OASGA IN JUNE MEETING. SCHEME WOULD BE RATHER SIMILAR TO THAT PROPOSED IN LAST UNGA, IN THAT IT WOULD PROVIDE FOR A SYSTEM OF GENERAL APPLICATION IN DEALING WITH CHARGES OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES. TRUCCO ENVISAGES A RECONSTITUTED AND ENLARGED INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WHICH WOULD RECEIVE COMPLAINTS OF SPECIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AFFECTING SPECIFIED INDIVIDUALS AND WOULD WORK WITH ASSENT OF GOVERNMENT CONCERNED AND IN STRICTLY OBJECTIVE SPIRIT. TRUCCO WAS VAGUE ON FURTHER DETAILS.

4. TRUCCO HOPES TO ENLIST AID OF COSTA RICAN FONMIN FACIO ON PROJECT, SO IT WILL NOT BE EXCLUSIVELY CHILEAN, AND ALSO THEREBY SOFTEN CHILEAN-COSTA RICAN CONFRONTATION OVER STATUS OF EXTREMIST LEADER ANDRES PASCAL ALLENDE, WHO SOUGHT ASYLUM IN COSTA RICAN EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO.

5. TRUCCO AGREES WITH DIEZ, AND PRESUMABLY OTHERS WHO WILL MEET PINOCHET, ON NEED FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN GOC HANDLING OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS. HE MENTIONED PARTICULARLY RESTRICTING ROLE OF DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (DINA) BY PUTTING IT UNDER INTERIOR MINISTRY (PARA FIVE REFTTEL) AND SHAKING UP ITS SYSTEM OF CONTROL. NEXT STEP HOPEFULLY WOULD BE CHANGE IN DINA'S LEADERSHIP.

6. AMBASSADOR POPPER, AS HE HAD WITH DIEZ, ENCOURAGED TRUCCO TO SEEK CHANGES IN GOC PRACTICES.

7. COMMENT: GOC SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS ARE PERENNIALY OPTIMISTIC ON HUMAN RIGHTS IMPROVEMENTS, BUT OUR EXPERIENCE INDICATES THAT EVEN AFTER THEY BELIEVE THEY HAVE ARRANGED FOR SUCH IMPROVEMENTS, NO FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES TAKE PLACE. PRESENCE OF FINANCE MINISJR CAUAS AT PINOCHET MEETING SHOULD STRENGTHEN THEIR APPROACH TO PINOCHET, SINCE CAUAS CAN SPEAK PERSUASIVELY ABOUT EFFECTS ON CHILEAN ECONOMY OF CURRENT FOREIGN HOSTILITY TO CHILE.
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8. TRUCCO SAID HE WOULD TRY TO TALK TO AMBASSADOR AGAIN AFTER JANUARY 19 MEETING.
POPPER

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